

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 04501 161502Z
ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 4501

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, EG, US
SUBJECT: NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENT

REF: CAIRO 4430

1. CAIRO PRESS REPORTED MARCH 16 THAT EGYPTIAN NEGOTIATORS HAVE BEGUN FINAL SESSIONS WITH QUOTE AMERICAN PARTY UNQUOTE AIMED AT SUPPLY OF NUCLEAR REACTOR FOR EGYPT'S FIRST NUCLEAR POWER PROJECT. FINAL SESSION WILL LAST TEN DAYS ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS. QUOTING MAHER ABAZA, MINELECTRICITIY UNDER-SECRETARY, PAPERS INFORM US THAT DEPRIMIN AND MINELECTRICITY WILL LEAD NEGOTIATIONS WITH AMERICAN SIDE HIMSELF. FINAL TECHNICAL, SECURITY AS WELL AS FINANCIAL ASPECTS WILL BE WORKED OUT.

2. COMMENT: PRESS REPORTS DO NOT MENTION WESTINGHOUSE BY NAME AND LEAVE DELIBERATELY VAGUE THEREFORE WHETHER NEGOTIATIONS BEING CONDUCTED WITH USG OR COMPANY. ARTICLE IS PROBABLY CONNECTED WITH ABAZA'S CALL TO EMBOFF MARCH 15 (REFTEL) AND SHOULD BE READ AS BEGINNING OF PUBLIC CAMPAIGN WHICH MINELECTRICITY
LIKELY WAGE FOR SOME MOVEMENT ON AGREEMENT QUESTION DURING BUILDUP TO PRESIDENT SADAT'S VISIT. MATTHEWS

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Message Attributes

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